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CLASSIFICATION SECURPTORNIAL OF CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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REPORT

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INFORMATION REPORT

CD NO.

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COUNTRY Bulgaria

DATE DISTR. 15 March 1951

SUBJECT

INFO.

Movement of Bulgarian Military Units

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SUPPLEMENT TO

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REPORT NO.

THIS OCCUPIENT CONTAINS INFORMATION AFFECTING THE MATIONAL DEFENCE OF THE UNITED STATES WITHIN THE HEADING OF THE ESPICIAGE ACT SO S. S., S. AND SZ. AS ANRIODED. ITS TRANSMISSION ON THE REVELATION OF THE COUTERING HEADING

THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

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1. During the summer of 1950 the Bulgarian General Staff noted with alarm the arrival of several Yugoslav divisions on the Yugoslav-Bulgarian frontier opposite Sofia and Kyustendil. In order to counteract this move, the Bulgarian General Staff ordered its available troops to take positions along the border. The units available were not up to the new table of organization strength which had been set up to follow closely the composition of a Russian infantry division.

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- 2. The 1 Infantry Division (1 Guard Fire Division Josef V. Stalin), composed of 1, 6 and 25 Infantry Regiments and 4 Divisional Artillery Regiment, was moved out of Sofia. Elements of the division took up the following positions:
  - a. Headquarters moved to a position near Bozhurishte.
  - b. 1 Infantry Regiment moved to a position near Trun.
  - c. 25 Infantry Regiment moved to Slivnitsa.
  - d. 6 Infantry Regiment moved to Godech.
  - e. 4 Divisional Artillery Regiment moved to a location near Slivnitsa.

The division was withdrawn to Sofia during October 1950; however, each regiment left one of its battalions in the towns mentioned. All of the above infantry regiments initially had two infantry battalions each, but they were reinforced from garrisons in the northwest part of Bulgaria to a strength of three battalions each.

- 3. An armored division was brought from Sofia and placed on a general line from Filipovtsi to Kostinbrod. This division had recently been brought up to full strength in both men and equipment. It was also withdrawn to Sofia during the month of October 1950, but did not leave any of its units on the Filipovtsi-Kostinbrod line.
- 4. The 1 Guards Regiment (Cavalry, formerly the King's Guards Regiment) was moved to Breznik. This regiment has not been withdrawn to Sofia.

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## CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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- 5. The 7 Infantry Division which is responsible for the defense of the area to the south of 1 Infantry Division, and which is also within the First Army area, took up positions in the following places:
  - a. Divisional Headquarters in Dupnitsa.
  - b. 22 Infantry Regiment stationed in Dupnitsa (for deception purposes this regiment carries the designation 32 Infantry Regiment).
  - c. Engineer battalion in Dupnitsa.
  - d. Divisional hospital in Dupnitsa.
  - e. Supply battalion in Dupnitsa.
  - f. Anti-aircraft battery in Dupnitsa.
  - g. 13 Infantry Regiment in Kyustendil.
  - h. 7 Divisional Artillery Regiment in Kyustendil.
  - i. Anti-tank battalion in Kyustendil.
  - 14 Infantry Regiment in Blagoevgrad (this regiment carries the number 23 Infantry Regiment for deception purposes).
  - k. 7 Pack Mountain Artillery Battalion in Razlog.
- 6. As part of the overall defense plan the First Army took all of its outdated and worn-out German tanks mounted with 75 mm. guns and had them dug in as permanent gun emplacements in the area west of Slivnitsa. There are a total of 50 such installations of the so-called type 4 tank.
- 7. After the withdrawal of 1 Division to Sofia, 25 Infantry Regiment, less one battalion, was transferred to Gara Pirin where it set up headquarters. One battalion stayed in Gara Pirin and the other battalion was sent to Petrich. Each of its two battalions are now independent and it is planned to form them into regiments in case of necessity; the two regiments would form a mountain brigade. These two battalions are presently undergoing training as mountain infantry battalions but there is no indication that they will receive additional strength in the immediate future. These battalions remain under the jurisdiction of the First Army Headquarters. There is also discussion of forming another such nucleus for a mountain brigade along the northwest border. This group's headquarters would probably be at Berkovitsa. The type of training conducted by the two battalions at Gara Pirin and Petrich is presently unknown.
- 8. The 39 Regiment formerly stationed at Nevrokop was moved north to the Sofia area. It has not been positively established but indications are that this regiment will replace 25 Infantry Regiment within the framework of 1 Division. Up to now 39 Regiment has been an independent regiment responsible directly to First Army Headquarters.
- 9. The 13 Infantry Regiment was brought up to full strength by a battalion from 7 Infantry Regiment of 4 Division. The 14 Infantry Regiment was brought up to strength by a battalion from an unknown infantry regiment of 4 Division. The 22 Infantry Regiment was brought up to strength by a battalion from either 4 or 5 Division. Indications are that this battalion is one of the battalions from 5 Infantry Division.
- 10. The 7 Pack Mountain Artillery Battalion is rumored as being earmarked for attachment or incorporation into the planned mountain infantry brigade.
- 11. At Samokov a ski battalion which has been stationed there for sometime, is presently undergoing mountain training. This battalion is very much under strength. It comes under the direct control and jurisdiction of First Army.

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12. Up to the present time there have been no orders issued indicating that these units, which have been moved around or brought in from other divisions and regiments, are permanently transferred to their present location. They still remain on the table of organization of their original mother unit. However, the plan is eventually to transfer these units on paper to the jurisdiction of their present superior headquarters. Their places within their original mother units will be taken by other battalions formed from conscripts and/or reservists called to active duty.



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